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Good Morning,

to the symposium 'Future Indonesia' on September 14th in Berlin, I send my best regards!

Today's event has a history, starting with the German-Indonesian Academic Dialogue on Diversity on May 4, 2015 in Kiel. Starting point for contacts with Indonesia and the event in 2015 was the insight that we have to talk about a common understanding of diversity, especially with reference to the ongoing discussion about peaceful coexistence in a future world society and about shared values that can form the basis for it. The role of religions - and thus of Islam - in the success of such a civilization project is of high importance.

Two years ago, we learned a lot about similarities that connect us - but also about differences that separate us. From this experience of a successful inter-cultural dialogue, a German-Indonesian research network has formed, continueing the work we began. With today's second event, we take a closer look at the question if there is a sound common basis of values within Indonesia, as the cultural mission statement from the times of the founders of the state suggests; and we will look how it has developed since, a.o. because of globalization and social change, and under the influence of the new media worlds. Once again, the interactions between state constitution, social change and religious conviction will play an important role.

The *Research Network Future Indonesia* is largely anchored in Schleswig-Holstein. This is not really surprising: the 'real north' has a long scientific tradition of research and teaching on democracy culture and peaceful coexistence in diversity, both on the foundations and on practical consequences, such as for educational institutions. With the opening of the *Kiel Research Center Tolerance* at our Institute for Social Psychology and Political Psychology today, parallel with the symposium 'Future Indonesia' in Berlin, we can see how the next milestone is set.

A look beyond the national horizons - and in addition to an exciting country such as Indonesia - will continue to help us understand the complex challenges our societies are facing, and to draw the necessary conclusions from them.

I wish 'good luck' and look forward to future exciting research projects and events!